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but it had also become largely obsolete. When, therefore, it became understood some years ago that Sullivant and Lesquereux were at work on such a manual, there was an expression of general satisfaction. But Sullivant passed away, and his colleague was stricken with partial blindness. After an interval the work was resumed by Lesquereux, aided by Thomas P. James; but two years ago death again left the former to go on alone. Again the aged worker sought a helper, and found it in Mr. Watson of the Harvard Botanic Gardens, with whose assistance the present volume has been brought out.

We have examined it with much care, and have been pleased throughout. The treatment appears to us to be quite satisfactory, the descriptions being unusually full and clear. The keys are ample and well arranged, and these, with the plates (five from the old work of Sullivant), will enable almost any one to determine the classification of any moss.

The mosses are here considered to constitute a class including three orders, viz: Sphagnaceæ (the peat-mosses), Andreæaceæ (the schizocarpous mosses) and Bryaceæ (the true mosses). The Phascaceæ are considered as forming a tribe (the lowest) of the Bryaceæ. This is, in our opinion, an error. Their indehiscent capsules and minute size ought to entitle them to ordinal rank as much as the Andreæaceæ. Bryaceæ, moreover, are arranged in three series, viz: Acrocarpi, Cladocarpi and Pleurocarpi, and these include, all told, twenty-three tribes. The last of these tribes, Hypneæ, includes the single genus Hypnum, which is represented by 195 species distributed among twenty-eight subgenera. There are, all told, about 900 species of mosses described in this manual, which is more than double the number treated in Sullivant's little work. In the words of the surviving author it "is believed to include descriptions of all the species of mosses that are as yet known to occur in the North American continent within the limits of the United States and northward." —*C. E. B.*

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GENERAL NOTES.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.[1]

AMERICA.—*Results of the Greely Expedition.*—On May 13th, 1883, Lieut. Lockwood and Sergt. Brainard reached an island which has been named after the former (lat. 83° 24′ 30″ N., long. 44° 45′ W). From an elevation of 2000 feet no land was seen to the north or north-west, but Cape Robert Lincoln in Greenland (lat. 83° 35′, long. 38°), was seen to the north-east. Animal life was found to be abundant, with scanty vegetation, like that of Grinnell land. Traces of hares, lemmings, bear, musk-ox, ptarmigan and snow-bunting were seen. The party was absent fifty-nine days. The latitude attained on this occasion was four miles farther north than the highest reached by the English. In another journey Lockwood and Brainard crossed Grinnell land, and from its western coast looked out on the Polar sea. The southern part of this land is covered with an immense glacier, which they named the Agassiz glacier. Sixty miles of land intervene between this and the northern ice-cap. While resting three days ninety miles from Beatrix bay, at the head of Archer fiord, they struck the head of a fiord from the western sea. This they named Greely fiord. From its center, in latitude 80° 39″, and longitude 78° 30′, they saw from the summit of a cliff, 2200 feet high, the northern shore terminate in a high headland, which they named Cape Brainard. To the south, some seventy miles distant, was Cape Lockwood, apparently upon a land which, as open water intervened, they thought to be separate from Grinnell land, and named Arthur land. In 1882 Dr. Pavy followed the Markham route, and was adrift in the Polar sea north of Cape Joseph Henry. Abandoning everything, he escaped to land. In 1883 Lieut. Lockwood was turned back by open water on the North Greenland shore. In 1882 Lieut. Greely made two trips into the interior of Grinnell land, and discovered Lake Hazen, some sixty miles long by ten wide. This large body of fresh-water is fed by the ice-caps of North Grinnell land, and discharges by Ruggles river into Weyprecht fiord, and thence into Conybeare bay and Archer fiord. From the summit of Mount Arthur (5000 feet) the contour of

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[1] This department is edited by W. N. LOCKINGTON, Philadelphia.